

II. LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims is provided as a courtesy only as no claims have been amended:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating electronic mail data from a sender to a receiver via a network, comprising the steps of:

(a) recognizing a dial number of said receiver corresponding to destination address information attached to said electronic mail data;

(b) converting on the sender said electronic mail data into an image form permitting facsimile communication, wherein said electronic mail data originates in an electronic mail format; wherein the converting comprises the step of determining a horizontal number of pixels and generating data by linking the data with the horizontal number in a vertical direction according to a specification based on ITU-T Recommendation T-30 and further comprises the step of generating data to be transmitted by using a mail body in which said electronic mail data are recognized to be a series of binary values, a header representing said image form, and a padding for linking the mail body and the header by adjusting line width of the horizontal numbers of pixels;

(c) initiating a call to said receiver using said recognized dial number and transmitting said electronic mail data converted into said image form to the receiver by facsimile communication procedures, and

(d) converting on the receiver said electronic mail data converted into said image form back into electronic mail data in the electronic mail format.

2-8. (Canceled).

9. (Currently Amended) An electronic mail transmitting apparatus for transmitting electronic mail data to a receiver using a switched line not through the Internet, comprising:

a communication specification determination unit for determining a specification of communication with said receiver for communication over said switched line based on destination address information for an external network assigned to the electronic mail data; wherein said communication specification determination unit stores in advance correspondence information among destination address information for a network assigned to electronic mail data, a dial number of said receiver and a communication procedure based on ITU-T Recommendation T-30, and determines the specification of communication based on the stored correspondence information;

a conversion unit for converting electronic mail data to be transmitted into a data form for communication over said switched line, wherein said electronic mail data originates in an electronic mail format, wherein the conversion unit is located on a sender and recognizes data contained in said electronic mail data as a series of binary values, and converts the data form by adjusting line widths;

a transmission unit for transmitting said electronic mail data converted into said data form by said converting unit, to said receiver in accordance with said specification of communication determined by said communication specification determination unit, using said

switched line; and

a reversion unit for converting said electronic mail data converted into said data form that has been received over said switched line into electronic mail data in the electronic mail format, wherein the reversion unit is located on the receiver.

10-16. (Canceled).